

Sinclair Broadcasting Group's highly-publicized decision to air a biased motion picture making character accusations against Presidential candidate John Kerry is a clear violation of its use of the public airwaves.

Accusations about Senator Kerry's Vietnam war record have been aired ad infinitum in the press this year, but each accusation has been met with an equally, if not more, credible rebuttal by former servicemen who served alongside Mr. Kerry. Responsible journalism would acknowledge both voices, but it is Sinclair's clear intent to take a position on one side of this issue and act as an advocate for Mr. Kerry's opponent. This is an abuse of their charter, and of my airwaves, which they are licensed to use responsibly.

There's a reason that organizations such as Sinclair use the public airwaves free of charge, but it is not to act as advocates for a single party. They are meant to act as servants to the public. When media conglomerates airing "news" become advocates for any political party, philosophy or camp, they become a threat to public discourse and ultimately, freedom -- regardless of which narrow point of view they espouse.

Please intervene to stem the tide of this dangerous (and, at any rate, illegal) trend. Sinclair must either rescind the order it made to its stations to air this biased material unchallenged, or follow it with a contrapuntal work such as the pro-Kerry documentary GOING UPRIVER, or lose their charter!

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